Numb. 77

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

Quicquid agunt Homines noſtri Farrago Libelli.

From *Tueſday October* 4. to *Thurſday October* 6. 1709.

From my own Apartment, October 5.

AS bad as the World is, I find by very ſtrict Obſervation upon Virtue and Vice, that if Men appear'd no worſe than they really are, I ſhould have leſs Work than at preſent I am oblig'd to undertake for their Reformation. They have generally taken up a kind of invented Ambition, and affect even Faults and Imperfections of which they are innocent. The other Day in a Coffee-houſe I ſtood by a young Heir, with a freſh, ſanguine, and healthy Look, who entertain'd us with an Account of his Claps and his Diet-Drink; tho' to my Knowledge, he is as ſound as any of his Tenants. This worthy Youth put me into Reflections upon that Subject; and I obſerv'd the fantaſtical Humour to be ſo general, that there is hardly a Man who is not more or leſs tainted with it. The Firſt of this Order of Men are the *Valetudinarians*, who are never in Health, but complain of Want of Stomach or Reſt every Day till Noon, and then devour all which comes before 'em. Lady *Dainty* is convinc'd, that it is neceſſary for a Gentlewoman to be out of Order; and to preſerve that Character, ſhe dines every Day in her Cloſet at Twelve, that ſhe may become her Table at Two, and be unable to eat in Publick. About five Years ago, I remember it was the Faſhion to be ſhort-ſighted: A Man would not own an Acquaintance 'till he had firſt examin'd him with his Glaſs. At a Lady's Entrance into the Play-houſe, you might ſee Tubes immediately levell'd at her from every Quarter of the Pit and Side-Boxes. However, that Mode of Infirmity is out, and the Age has recover'd its Sight: But the Blind ſeem to be ſucceeded by the Lame, and a janty Limp is the preſent Beauty. I think I have formerly obſerv'd, a Cane is Part of the Dreſs of a Prig, and always worn upon a Button, for fear he ſhould be thought to have an Occaſion for it, or be eſteem'd really, and not genteely a Cripple. I have conſider'd, but could never find out the Bottom of this Vanity. I indeed have heard of a *Gaſcon* General, who by the lucky grazing of a Bullet on the Roll of his Stocking, took Occaſion to halt all his Life after. But as for our peaceable Cripples, I know no Foundation for their Behaviour, without it may be ſuppos'd that in this Warlike Age, ſome think a Cane the next Honour to a Wooden Leg. This Sort of Affectation I have known run from one Limb or Member to another. Before the *Limpers* came in, I remember a Race of *Liſpers*, fine Perſons, who took an Averſion to particular Letters in our Language: Some never utter'd the Letter *H*; and others had as mortal an Averſion for *S*. Others have had their faſhionable Defect in their Ears, and would make you repeat all you ſaid twice over. I know an ancient Friend of mine, whoſe Table is every Day ſurrounded with Flatterers, that makes uſe of this, ſometimes as a Piece of Grandeur, and at others as an Art, to make them repeat their Commendations. Such Affectations have been indeed in the World in antient Times; but they fell into 'em out of politick Ends. *Alexander the Great* had a wry Neck, which made it the Faſhion in his Court to carry their Heads on one Side when they came into the Preſence. One who thought to out-ſhine the whole Court, carried his Head ſo over complaiſantly, that this martial Prince gave him ſo great a Box on the Ear, as ſet all the Heads of the Court upright.

This Humour takes Place in our Minds as well as Bodies. I know at this Time a young Gentleman, who talks atheiſtically all Day in Coffee-houſes, and in his Degrees of Underſtanding ſets up for a *Free-Thinker*; tho' it can be prov'd upon him, he ſays his Prayers every Morning and Evening. But this Claſs of modern Wits I ſhall reſerve for a Chapter by it ſelf. Of the like Turn are all your *Marriage-Haters*, who rail at the Nooſe, at the Words, *For ever and Ay*, and are ſecretly pining for ſome young Thing or other that makes their Hearts ake by her Refuſal. The next to theſe, are thoſe who pretend to govern their Wives, and boaſt how ill they uſe 'em; when at the ſame Time, go to their Houſes, and you ſhall ſee 'em ſtep as if they fear'd making a Noiſe, and are as fawning as Lap-dogs. I don't know, but ſometimes theſe Pretences may ariſe from a Deſire to conceal a contrary Defect than that they ſet up for. I remember, when I was a young Fellow, we had a Companion of a very fearful Complexion, who, when we ſat in to Drink, would deſire us to take his Sword from him when he grew fuddled, for 'twas his Misfortune to be quarrelſome. There are many, many of theſe Evils, which demand my Obſervation; but becauſe I have of late been thought ſomewhat too Satyrical, I ſhall give 'em Warning, and declare to the whole World, that they are not true, but falſe Hypocrites; and make it out, that they are good Men in their Hearts. The Motive of this monſtrous Affectation in the above-mention'd, and the like Particulars, I take to proceed from that noble Thirſt of Fame and Reputation which is planted in the Hearts of all Men. As this produces elegant Writings and gallant Actions in Men of great Abilities, it alſo brings forth ſpurious Productions in Men who are not capable of diſtinguiſhing themſelves by Things which are really praiſe-worthy. As the Deſire of Fame in Men of true Wit and Gallantry ſhows it ſelf in proper Inſtances, the ſame Deſire in Men who have the Ambition without proper Faculties, runs wild, and diſcovers it ſelf in a Thouſand Extravagancies, by which they would ſignalize themſelves from others, and gain a Set of Admirers. When I was a middle-ag'd Man, there were many Societies of ambitious young Men in *England*, who, in their Purſuits after Fame, were every Night employ'd

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in roasting Porters, smoaking Coblers, knocking down Watchmen, overturning Constables, breaking Windows, blackening Sign-Posts, and the like immortal Enterprizes, that dispers'd their Reputation throughout the whole Kingdom. One could hardly find a Knocker at a Door in a whole Street after a Midnight Expedition of these *Beaux Esprits*. I was lately very much surpris'd by an Account of my Maid, who enter'd my Bed-Chamber this Morning in a very great Fright, and told me, She was afraid my Parlour was haunted; for that she had found several Panes of my Windows broken, and the Floor strow'd with Half-pence. I have not yet a full Light into this new Way, but am apt to think, that it is a generous Piece of Wit that some of my Contemporaries make Use of, to break Windows, and leave Money to pay for 'em.

St. James's Coffee-house, October 5.

I have no Manner of News, more than what the whole Town had t'other Day; except that I have the Original Letter of the Mareschal *Bouflers* to the *French* King, after the late Battle in the Woods, which I translate for the Benefit of the *English* Reader.

SIR,

'THis is to let your Majesty understand, That, 'to your immortal Honour, and the Destruction of the Confederates, your Troops have lost another Battle. *Artagnan* did Wonders, *Roban* perform'd Miracles, *Guiche* did Wonders, *Gatinois* perform'd Miracles, the whole Army distinguish'd themselves, and every Body did Wonders. 'And to conclude the Wonders of the Day, I can 'assure your Majesty, That tho' you have lost the 'Field of Battle, you have not lost an Inch of 'Ground. The Enemy march'd behind us with 'Respect, and we ran away from 'em as bold as 'Lions.

Letters have been sent to Mr. Bickerstaff, *relating to the present State of the Town of* Bath, *wherein the People of that Place have desir'd him to call Home the Physicians. All Gentlemen therefore of that Profession are hereby directed to return forthwith to their Places of Practice; and the Stage-Coaches are requir'd to take them in before other Passengers, till there shall be a Certificate sign'd by the Mayor or Mr.* Powel, *that there are but Two Doctors to One Patient left in Town.*

Advertisements.

Now in the Press,

** Dr. Nichols's Comment on the whole Book of Common Prayer, in large Folio, very good Paper and Character, with the Addition of three MSS. viz. one by Bishop Andrews, another by Bishop Cosins, and a third in the Hands of Dr. Hicks, being printing, and in such Forwardness as to be ready to deliver to Subscribers by Christmas next; all those that intend to subscribe, are desired to send in their first Payment, being 5 s. and their Names to be printed, to any of the Undertakers; viz. R. Bonwick, W. Freeman, T. Goodwin, J. Walthoe, M. Wotton, S. Manship, J. Nicholson, B. Took, R. Parker, or Ralph Smith, Booksellers; where Proposals may be had, and Sheets seen how forward it is. Note, the Second Edition of the Gentleman's Recreations, in large Folio, with one half Additions, and near 100 Copper Cuts, will be deliver'd to Subscribers by the same Persons the first Day of next Term.

On Wednesday next will be publish'd for September,

☞ Atlas Geographus: Or, A Compleat System of Geography, Ancient and Modern: From the best Authors, with near Two Hundred Cuts, Maps, Sanson's Tables, &c. Publish'd Monthly. This 17th finishes the Netherlands, and contains the Ancient Geography, &c. of France. With Three Maps and a Table, viz. 1. Gallia Antiqua & Nova, by Cluverius. 2. France in General. 3. The North Part of France: Both by Mr Moll. 4. Sanson's Table of the Modern Divisions of France; and an Account of their present Manners, Religion, &c. Sold by John Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Where may be had the preceding Months. Price 1 s. each. Note, those that take them in Monthly, are desir'd to give in their Names to their Bookseller to be printed, as Encouragers of the same, against Europe is finish'd, which will be in about 4 Months.

This is to give Notice to all Gentlemen and Ladies, That there is lately brought over a great Parcel of very fine German Cut and Carv'd Glasses, viz. Jellies, Wine and Water Tumblers, Beer and Wine Glasses with Covers, and divers other Sorts; the like hath not been expos'd to publick Sale before. They are lotted into small Parcels, with some of every Sort, fit for a Sideboard: And will be sold by Auction on Thursday October 13th, 1709. at 5 in the Afternoon, at the Black-Boy Coffee-house in Ave-mary-Lane, one End coming into Ludgate-street, London. The Goods are to be seen at the said Coffee-house, from this Day to the Time of Sale, from 12 till 6 at Night.

On Saturday will be publish'd,

** The Compleat Works of Mr. Thomas Brown, in Prose and Verse; Serious, Moral, Comical, and Satyrical. Containing a compleat Collection of all his Dialogues, Essays, Satyrs, Declamations, Orations, Table-Talk-Letters, both Original and Translations from Greek and Latin: Letters from the Dead to the Living. In 3 Parts. Comical View of London; Translation-Odes of Horace; Observations on Homer, Virgil, and Ovid; Amusements, Serious and Comical, calculated to the Meridian of London; Laconicks, or new Maxims of State and Conversation, &c. The Third Edition, with large Additions; and a Supplement never before printed. To which is prefix'd, A Character of T. Brown, and his Writings. By Dr. James Drake. Printed for S. Briscoe, and Sold by J. Woodward in St. Christophers-Church-Yard near the Royal-Exchange, and J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall.

** The famous Medicine for curing the Cholick, that has for some Time been sold by Mr. Rogers, Bookseller in Fleet-street, at 2 s. and 6 d. the Paper, has lately cur'd a Gentlewoman near Tunbridge of above 70 Years old, who had been afflicted with that Distemper at Times for above 40 Years, and for above half a Year last past had it without any Intermission; as appears by a Letter from a Friend of the Gentlewoman's sent to Mr. Rogers, dated July 9. 1709. which is to be seen at his Shop by any one that desires it.

The only True Purging Essential Salt of Scurvy-Grass, the pleasantest Physick in the World, which effectually eradicates that reigning Disease: It purges gently by Stool, never vomits, but works pleasant, free, and easie, without Sickness, or almost any Disorder: It cools and refreshes Nature, cleanses the Body and Blood of all Filth, corroborates both, invigorates the Spirits, restores lost Stomachs, carries off the Remains of bad Wines, and is immediately necessary on all Occasions that require Purging: It's needless to say, it cures the Scurvy, Gout, Rheumatism, Dropsie, Jaundice, Green-sickness, Hypocondriac Melancholy, &c. for it opens all Obstructions of the Liver, Spleen, and Gall, powerfully resists Putrefaction, is Diuretick, helps Digestion, Kills Worms, and brings them away both in Children and adult Persons. Is only Sold by Mr. Harrison, at a Wax Chandler's at the White-Hart in the Poultry; and at Mrs. Cole's, at the Dial and Two Crowns, Toy-shop, against St. Dunstan's Church, Fleet-street; at 1 s. an Ounce, seal'd up with printed Directions.

☞ The famous Chimical Quintessence of Bohee-Tea and Cocoa-Nuts together, wherein the Volatile Salt, Oil, and Spirit of them both, are chymically extracted and united, and in which all the Virtues of both Tea and Nut are essentially inherent, and is really a pleasant, refreshing Preparation, found upon Experience, to be the highest Restorative that either Food or Physick affords; for by it all Consumptive Habits, Decays of Nature, inward Wastings, weakly, thin, & emaciated Constitutions, Coughs, Asthma's, Phthicks, Loss of Appetite, &c. are to a Miracle retriev'd, and the Body, Blood, and Spirits, powerfully corroborated and restored. A few Drops of it, in a Dish of Bohee-Tea or Chocolate, is the most delirable Breakfast or Supper, and outvies, for Virtue and Nourishment, Twenty Dishes of either without it; nothing being more nutritive and supporting. Likewise to strengthen the Back, prevent Miscarriages, cause Procreation and Conception, it is beyond all Medecine, as those that take it once will find, and scarce ever live without it. It is also the only sure Cure for Vapours and Melancholy; for those Diseases being occasion'd by the Poorness of the Blood and Spirits, this Quintessence cures, by its enriching and enlivening Properties. Is sold only at Mr. Laurence's, a Toy-shop, at the Sign of the Griffin, the Corner of Bucklersbury, in the Poultry, at 5 s. the Bottle, with printed Directions.

☞ An Incomparable Beautifying Cream for the Face, Neck and Hands, takes away all Freckles, Spots, Pimples, Wrinkles, Roughness, Scurf, Morphew, Yellowness, Sun-burning, renders the Skin admirably Clear, Fair, and Beautiful, has an excellent pretty Scent; is very safe and harmless, and vastly transcends all other Things; for it truly nourishes the Skin, making it instantly look Plump, Fresh, Smooth, and Delicately Fair, though before Wrinkled and Discolour'd. Sold only at Mr. Lawrence's Toyshop at the Griffin the Corner of the Poultry near Cheapside, at 2 s. 6 d. a Gally-pot with Directions.

** A Military Dictionary: Explaining all difficult Terms in Martial Discipline, Fortification, and Gunnery. The Third Edition, Improv'd. To which is likewise added, a Sea Dictionary of all the Terms of Navigation. Both of them very useful (to all Persons that read the Publick News, or serve in the Army, Navy, or Militia) for the Understanding the Accounts of Sieges, Battles, and other Warlike and Marine Expeditions, which daily occur in this Time of Action. By Officers who serv'd several Years at Sea and Land. Printed; and sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Price 1 s. 6 d.

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